

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are currently pending. Claims 1-10 have been amended without narrowing the scope to conform to U.S. patent practice, to more particularly recite the claimed subject matter, and to provide proper antecedent basis. Specifically, claims 1 and 9 have been amended to recite a substituted “dihydropyrimidinone.” Claim 1 has been further amended to recite “urea or thiourea” instead of the informal urea/thiourea, “a polyaniline salt” and “a reusable catalyst.” Additionally, claims 5, 6 and 7 have been amended to more particularly recite the claimed ranges and to remove abbreviations from the claims. Therefore, no new matter has been introduced and this is not a narrowing amendment.

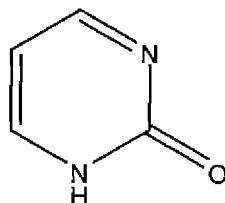
Allowable Subject Matter

At the outset, Applicants gratefully acknowledge that the Examiner has determined that claims 1-10 would be allowable if the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph are overcome.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

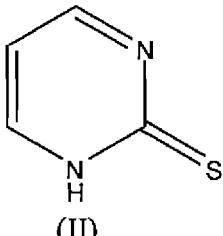
The Examiner has rejected claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. Specifically, the Examiner contends that, although the starting material of the claimed process is recited as either “urea” or “thiourea”, the resulting product is “dihydropyrimidinones”, and therefore, it is unclear whether the claimed process always results in a dihydropyrimidinone product even when thiourea is used as the starting material.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. The term “dihydropyrimidinone” as used in the instant specification is meant to encompass both compounds including the general dihydropyrimidine ring structure I that includes a carbonyl:



(I)

and compounds including the general dihydropyrimidine ring structure II that includes a thiocarbonyl:



(II)

In the present application, the Applicants disclose three-component condensation reactions using as starting materials an aromatic aldehyde, a β -keto ester and urea (see, e.g., the reactions exemplified in entries 1-12 and 16 of Table VII of Example 8 on pages 8-9 of the specification), which clearly produce a compound including the dihydropyrimidine ring structure I with a carbonyl, as well as three-component condensation reactions using as starting materials an aromatic aldehyde, a β -keto ester and thiourea (see, e.g., the reactions exemplified in entries 13-15 of Table VII of Example 8 on pages 8-9 of the specification), which clearly produce a compound including the general dihydropyrimidine ring structure II with a thiocarbonyl. Applicants for patent can be their own lexicographer, and the Applicants have clearly used the term "dihydropyrimidinone" generically to encompass the products of condensation reactions using urea as a starting material (i.e., products that include the general ring structure I) and the products of condensation reactions using thiourea as a starting material (i.e., products that include the general ring structure II). Furthermore, a person of ordinary skill in the art would understand the term "dihydropyrimidinone" as defined and used in the specification to include compounds having the general ring structure I and compounds having

the general ring structure II. Accordingly, withdrawal and reconsideration of this rejection is requested.

Thus, claims 1-10 as amended are not indefinite and Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 9 for reciting plural terms such as “dihydropyrimidinones,” “salts” and “catalysts” even though the process produces a single product using a catalyst, and suggests amendments to these claims.

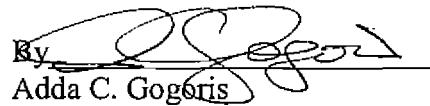
Claims 1 and 9 have been amended to recite the singular forms of “dihydropyrimidinone,” “salt” and “catalyst.” Thus, the rejection as applied to claims 1 and 9 is moot and Applicants respectfully request its withdrawal.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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